

City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2015

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Council members Joseph Abban, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Stephen Houglund, Dr. William T. Murphy and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Councilor Murphy offered an invocation. Mayor McGuinness led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentations & Public Comments

Swearing in of Probationary Officer Nicholas Mahan – Chief O’Sullivan introduced Nicholas Mahan and his wife to the City Council. Mayor McGuinness welcomed him to the City and swore him in as a Probationary Police Officer with the Franklin Police Department.

Following the swearing in ceremony, resident Mr. Warren “Butch” Isselhardt owner of the Flying Frog Bed & Breakfast at 399 N. Main Street came forward to ask about the status of City ordered repairs to the apartment building located across the street from his Bed & Breakfast, the Flying Frog. Mr. Isselhardt stated that not only had this building been an eyesore for two years since the fire, but it is a public nuisance which compromises his business and the entire Main Street neighborhood. Mayor McGuinness stated that the City is doing everything possible to address this problem. A discussion was held.

The last to speak was Mr. Marty Williams President of the community group, Discover Downtown Franklin, thanked the City Council, the department heads and the public for their help and participation in the “Strawberries on the Square” festival.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the May 18, 2015 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Murphy. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

At this time Mayor McGuinness suggested that the agenda be reordered, moving the two (2) items listed under new business, concerning the development of the Meijer Store, to the beginning of the meeting. No one objected to this proposal.

New Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read each matter listed by title only, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Introductions

Common Council Ordinance No.: 15-05 An Ordinance Approving a Resolution of the City of Franklin, Indiana Plan Commission, and Annexing Certain Property Contiguous to the Franklin Corporate Limits (To be known as Meijer Annexation) - Senior Planner Joanna Myers came forward and introduced Stephanie Mack a real property agent working for Meijer and John Tyler the Meijer civil engineer assigned to this project. A discussion was held. The mayor explained that this proposed ordinance is presented for introduction only and has been advertised for public hearing during the next regular meeting June 15, 2015.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 15-06 An Ordinance Approving Resolution No.: 15-12 of the City of Franklin, Indiana Plan Commission, Rezoning Certain Property to MXR (Mixed Use: Regional Center) (To be known as Meijer Rezoning) - Senior Planner Joanna Myers explained that the proposed development of Meijer at this location would not meet the lot standards of the MXC zoning district as the maximum lot size for MXC zoned properties is 10 acres. She stated that the proposed use is a permitted use in both zoning districts. A discussion was held. The mayor explained that this proposed ordinance is presented for introduction and has been advertised for public hearing during the next regular meeting June 15, 2015.

Following these two separate but connected discussions the Council returned to the consideration of old business.

Old Business

Public Hearing

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 15-09 An Additional Appropriation – City Engineer Underhill presented his proposal requesting \$120,000.00 that will compensate the railroad for construction of a walking trail which will cross the railroad's tracks on Commerce Drive. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for a public hearing. No one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Wertz. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 15-10 An Additional Appropriation – Mayor McGuinness stated that the requested \$90,000.00 is for the purchase of three (3) new defibrillators for the Fire Department. Mayor McGuinness stated that three (3) quotes had been received but that the BOW had voted to accept the highest bid for the Zoll X-Series \$85,167.24 as it was the most responsive and responsible. The Mayor stated that it is his opinion that the Zoll product is ideal because it is the same defibrillator used by Seals Ambulance and Johnson Memorial Hospital. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for public hearing. No one asked to speak. A discussion was held. City Attorney Gray stated that the purchase was approved by the Board of Works and Public Safety earlier this evening, subject to Council approval of the additional appropriation. Ms. Gray also stated that Zoll must provide the city with a certificate of insurance pursuant to city guidelines. Councilor Wertz made a motion to approve an additional appropriation of \$85,200.00, seconded by Councilor Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

Request to Purchase Three (3) Defibrillator/Monitors - Fire Chief Dan McElyea – This item was removed from the agenda as it was authorized by the Board of Public Works subject to funding.

Council Comments

Mayor McGuinness stated that there would be a public meeting on 10, 2015 at 6:00 at Beeson Hall to discuss planned construction on Jefferson Street. City Engineer Underhill stated that they are working on a \$750,000.00 project to upgrade walkway from Mallory Parkway to US 31. He explained that it was a 90% / 10% federal grant. Franklin Schools have agreed to pay 5%, leaving the City with 5% payment match.

Council President Barnett asked the City Engineer about estimates for work on the Oren Wright parking lot project. Mr. Underhill stated that his estimate for the modifications considered is a half a million dollars. A discussion was held.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled:

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer